

Application No.: 09/932,882

Docket No.: 09469/007001

REMARKS

Please reconsider the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 6 and 21 contain allowable subject matter.

Disposition of the Claims

Claims 1-8, 10-16, 18-23, and 25-37 are pending in the present application. Claims 1, 18, 28, 29, 35, 36, and 37 are independent. The remaining claims depend, directly or indirectly, from claims 1, 18, and 29.

Claim Amendments

Independent Claims 1, 18, 28, 29, 35, 36, and 37 have been amended by way of this reply to merely include the allowable subject matter of claims 6 and 21. The Examiner has indicated on page 2 of the Office Action dated July 24, 2006 that claims 6 and 21 contain allowable subject matter. Thus, dependent claims 6 and 21 are canceled by way of this reply. No new subject matter has been added by way of these amendments. Further, Applicant respectfully asserts that no new search or consideration is necessitated by this amendment.

Objections

Claims 6 and 21 stand objected to as being dependent upon a rejected independent claim. As stated above, claims 6 and 21 have been cancelled by way of this reply and the subject matter has been added to the independent claims. Accordingly, the objection is now moot.

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Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103**Claims 1, 2, 5, 7, 11-13, 18-20, 26, 29-32, 36, and 37**

Claims 1, 2, 5, 7, 11-13, 18-20, 26, 29-32, 36, and 37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over EP 0820207 A2 (hereinafter referred to as "Lipsit") in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0034940 ("Takae") in further view of U.S. Patent No. 6,542,729 ("Chmaytelli"), and in further view of U.S. Patent No. 6,240,513 ("Friedman"). To the extent this rejection applies to the amended claims, this rejection is respectfully traversed.

As noted above, independent claims 1, 18, 29, 36 and 37 have been amended to include the subject matter of claim 6 and 21, which the Examiner has indicated as containing allowable subject matter. Thus, amended independent claims 1, 18, 29, 36 and 37 are now patentable over Lipsit, Takae, Chmaytelli, and Friedman, whether considered separately or in combination. Dependent claims 2, 5, 7, 11-13, 19, 20, 26, and 30-32, which depend directly or indirectly on claims 1, 18, and 29, are allowable for at least the same reasons. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 3, 4, 22, and 23

Claims 3, 4, 22, and 23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lipsit in view of Takae in further view of Chmaytelli in further view of Friedman in further view of Menezes, Alfred J. Handbook of Applied Cryptography (hereinafter referred to as "Menezes"). Claims 3, 4, 22, and 23 depend on amended independent claim 1 or 18. To the extent this rejection still applies to the amended claims, this rejection is respectfully traversed.

As described above, claims 1 and 18 have been amended to include the allowable subject matter of canceled dependent claims 6 and 21. Thus, claims 1 and 18 are now patentable over Lipsit, Takae, Chmaytelli, Friedman, and Menezes, whether considered separately or in combination. Dependent claims 3, 4, 22, 23, which depend on claims 1 and

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18, are patentable for at least the same reasons. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 10 and 25

Claims 10 and 25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lipsit in view of Takae in further view of Chmaytelli in further view of Friedman in further view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0138553 (hereinafter referred to as "Binder"). Claims 10 and 25 are dependent on amended independent claims 1 and 18, respectively. To the extent this rejection still applies to the amended claims, this rejection is respectfully traversed.

As described above, claims 1 and 18 have been amended to include the allowable subject matter of canceled dependent claims 6 and 21. Thus, claims 1 and 18 are now patentable over Lipsit, Takae, Chmaytelli, Friedman, and Binder, whether considered separately or in combination. Dependent claims 10 and 25, which depend on claims 1 and 18, are allowable for at least the same reasons. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 8, 14-16, and 27

Claims 8, 14-16 and 27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lipsit in view of Takae in further view of Chmaytelli in further view of Friedman in further view of Menezes. Claims 8, 14-16, and 27 are dependent on amended independent claims 1 and 18. To the extent this rejection still applies to the amended claims, this rejection is respectfully traversed.

As described above, claims 1 and 18 have been amended to include the allowable subject matter of canceled dependent claim 6. Thus, claims 1 and 18 are now patentable over Lipsit, Takae, Chmaytelli, Friedman, and Menezes, whether considered separately or in combination. Dependent claims 8, 14-16, and 27, which depend on claims 1 and 18, are

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allowable for at least the same reasons. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 28

Amended independent claim 28 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lipsit in view of Takae in further view of Chmaytelli in further view of Friedman in further view of Binder. To the extent this rejection still applies to amended independent claim 28, this rejection is respectfully traversed.

As noted above, independent claim 28 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 6 and 21, which the Examiner indicated as containing allowable subject matter. Thus, amended independent claim 28 is now patentable over Lipsit, Takae, Chmaytelli, Friedman, and Binder, whether considered separately or in combination. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 33

Claim 33 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lipsit in view of Takae in further view of Chmaytelli in further view of Friedman in further view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0013434 (hereinafter referred to as "Rosenberg"). Claim 33 is dependent on amended independent claim 29. To the extent this rejection still applies, this rejection is respectfully traversed.

As described above, claim 29 has been amended to include the allowable subject matter of canceled dependent claim 6. Thus, claim 29 is now patentable over Lipsit, Takae, Chmaytelli, Friedman, and Rosenberg, whether considered separately or in combination. Dependent claim 33, which depends on claim 29, is allowable for at least the same reasons. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

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Claim 34

Claim 34 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lipsit in view of Takae in further view of Chmaytelli in further view of Friedman in further view of U.S. Patent No. 5,949,882 (hereinafter referred to as "Angelo"). Claim 34 is dependent on amended independent claim 29. To the extent this rejection still applies to the amended claims, this rejection is respectfully traversed.

As described above, claim 29 has been amended to include the allowable subject matter of canceled dependent claim 6. Thus, claim 29 is now patentable over Lipsit, Takae, Chymaytelli, Friedman, and Angelo, whether considered separately or in combination. Dependent claim 34, which depends on claim 29, is allowable for at least the same reasons. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 35

Amended independent claim 35 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lipsit in view of Takae in further view of Chmaytelli in further view of Friedman in further view of Rosenberg in further view of Angelo. To the extent this rejection still applies to amended claim 35, this rejection is respectfully traversed.

As described above, claim 35 has been amended to include the allowable subject matter of canceled dependent claim 6. Thus, claim 29 is now patentable over Lipsit, Takae, Chymaytelli, Friedman, Rosenberg, and Angelo, whether considered separately or in combination. Dependent claim 35, which depends on claim 29, is allowable for at least the same reasons. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

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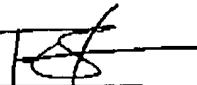
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Conclusion

Applicant believes this reply is fully responsive to all outstanding issues and places this application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number 09469/007001).

Dated: August 10, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

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